

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 07477 01 OF 03 301500Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----301504Z 081968 /44

O R 301416Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7870
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 03 BONN 07477

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO PFOR PGOV FR US UR UK GW WB
SUBJECT: NAC BRIEFING ON BERLIN

REFS: BONN 7294

BEGIN SUMMARY. SUBMITTED HERewith IS THE TEXT OF A
BONN GROUP DRAFT OF A BRIEFING ON BERLIN FOR PRESENTA-
TION TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL. ACTION REQUESTED:
APPROVAL OF TEXT. END SUMMARY.

1. THERE FOLLOWS IN PARA 4, BELOW, THE TEXT OF THE
BRIEFING ON BERLIN FOR PRESENTATION TO THE NORTH
ATLANTIC COUNCIL WHICH HAS BEEN PREPARED BY THE BONN
GROUP AND ON WHICH AD REF AGREEMENT WAS REACHED
APRIL 30. WE UNDERSTAND FROM OTHER BONN
GROUP REPS THAT THE BRIEFING IS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 4.

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2. IN VIEW OF THE SENSITIVITY OF THE SUBJECT OF THE
SOVIET DEMARCHES ON ALLIED PATROLS, IT WAS AGREED THAT
THE COUNCIL SHOULD NOT BE INFORMED OF THE DEMARCHES.
THE BONN GROUP RECOGNIZES THAT SUCH AN APPROACH IS NOT
WITHOUT RISK TO OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER NATO
COUNTRIES IF THE DEMARCHES LATER BECOME PUBLIC
KNOWLEDGE. HOWEVER, WE HOPE TO MINIMIZE THIS RISK BY

ALLUDING IN PARAGRAPH 2 TO THE POSSIBILITY OF AN
EVENTUAL MOVE AGAINST THE EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT OF FREE
MOVEMENT IN EAST BERLIN AND BY
MENTIONING IN PARAGRAPH 3 THE ABRASIMOV PRESS
CONFERENCE.

3. THE LAST PARAGRAPH OF THE TEXT REFLECTS THE BONN
GROUP EXPECTATION THAT THE BRIEFING PROJECT ON
BERLIN (REFTEL) WILL BE GIVEN TO THE NAC AT THE SAME
TIME AS THIS BRIEFING. IF THIS IS NOT DONE, THE LAST
PARAGRAPH SHOULD BE MODIFIED ACCORDINGLY.

4. FOLLOWING IS THE AD REF TEXT OF THE BRIEFING:

BEGIN TEXT

BRIEFING ON BERLIN FOR
THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

1. AS RECORDED IN THE JANUARY 26 BRIEFING
OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL, THE GDR HAS IN RECENT
MONTHS TAKEN A NUMBER OF STEPS APPARENTLY AIMED AT
ELIMINATING, TO THE EXTENT THAT THIS LIES WITHIN ITS
CAPACITY, THE REMAINING SIGNS OF DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN
THE EASTERN SECTOR OF BERLIN AND THE GDR. THESE STEPS
INCLUDED DISCONTINUANCE OF THE GAZETTE FOR GREATER
BERLIN, WHICH HAS HITHERTO BEEN THE VEHICLE FOR THE
EXTENSION TO THE EASTERN SECTOR OF BERLIN OF LEGIS-
LATION PASSED BY THE GDR VOLKSKAMMER; THE REMOVAL OF
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BORDER CONTROL POINTS BETWEEN THE EASTERN SECTOR AND
THE GDR; AND CHANGES IN VISA PROCEDURES. SINCE THAT
BRIEFING THE GDR HAS, ON MARCH 1, IMPOSED ROAD USAGE
FEES FOR VISITORS TO THE EASTERN SECTOR OF BERLIN IN
PARALLEL TO THOSE ALREADY IN FORCE IN THE GDR.

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2. AS STATED IN THE JANUARY 26 BRIEFING, THE GDR MEASURES, WHILE THEY WERE ALMOST CERTAINLY TAKEN WITH SOVIET APPROVAL, WERE CONFINED WITHIN LIMITS WHICH DID NOT APPEAR TO POSE A DIRECT SOVIET CHALLENGE TO ALLIED RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN AND AROUND BERLIN. BUT THE REMAINING DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN THE EASTERN SECTOR OF BERLIN AND THE GDR ARE FEW, AND, IF THE USSR AND THE GDR ARE DETERMINED TO CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE THESE DISTINCTIONS, THEY WILL INEVITABLY POSE A CHALLENGE TO THE EXERCISE OF ALLIED RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, SUCH AS THE RIGHT OF FREE MOVEMENT IN THE EASTERN SECTOR OF BERLIN BY ALLIED FORCES PERSONNEL. THIS VISIBLE EVIDENCE IN THEIR OWN "CAPITAL" OF THEIR LACK OF FULL SOVEREIGNTY HAS LONG IRRITATED THE GDR.

3. THERE HAVE BEEN INDICATIONS THAT THE USSR AND THE GDR ARE CONSIDERING STEPS WHICH WOULD CONSTITUTE
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SUCH A CHALLENGE. AN INSTANCE OF THIS IS THE INITIAL GDR REPORTING OF PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO THE GDR ON MARCH 10.

4. THE USSR HAS CONTINUED IN ITS OPPOSITION, REPORTED IN THE NATO BRIEFING OF DECEMBER 1, TO BERLIN'S INSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL TIES WITH THE FRG AND FRG REPRESENTATION ABROAD OF THE INTERESTS OF THE CITY.

5. THE QUESTION OF THE PARTICIPATION OF BERLIN IN THE ACTIVITIES AND DEVELOPMENTS OF THE EUROPEAN

COMMUNITY REMAINS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEMS FOR THE FUTURE. IN PARTICULAR, THE QUARREL OVER THE INCLUSION OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM BERLIN IN THE EUROPEAN ASSEMBLY COULD REBOUND IN CONNECTION WITH THE ADOPTION OF FRG LEGISLATION CONCERNING DIRECT ELECTIONS TO THE ASSEMBLY.

6. SOVIET REFUSAL TO AGREE TO PROVISIONS WHICH WOULD ENSURE THE MEANINGFUL INCLUSION OF BERLIN HAS THUS FAR PREVENTED THE CONCLUSION OF SEVERAL TREATIES BETWEEN THEM AND THE FRG. WHETHER THIS OBSTACLE CAN BE SURMOUNTED PRIOR TO THE PROJECTED VISIT OF BREZHNEV

TO THE FRG THIS FALL REMAINS TO BE DETERMINED.

7. THE GDR HAS HAD, IN RECENT MONTHS, A PARTICULARLY ACTIVE BERLIN AND GERMAN POLICY. THE GDR HAS, OF COURSE, SUPPORTED ALL OF THE SOVIET ATTEMPTS TO CALL INTO QUESTION THE TIES BETWEEN THE FRG AND BERLIN. THE GDR HAS, AS WE HAVE SEEN ABOVE, ATTEMPTED TO INTEGRATE EVER MORE THE EASTERN SECTOR OF BERLIN INTO ITS TERRITORY. THE EAST GERMAN AUTHORITIES HAVE TAKEN STEPS TO SLOW DOWN THE GROWTH OF HUMAN CONTACTS BETWEEN THE FRG AND THE GDR BUT HAVE DONE SO ONLY ON A SELECTIVE BASIS. HOWEVER, THEY HAVE NOT (NOR HAVE THE SOVIET
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AUTHORITIES) SOUGHT TO INTERFERE WITH THE ACCESS ROUTES TO BERLIN AND THE GDR HAS CONTINUED TO REAFFIRM THAT IT IS IN FAVOR, UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS, OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF FRG/GDR RELATIONS IN CERTAIN AREAS, NOTABLY ECONOMIC.

8. IN AN EFFORT TO CONTINUE THE PACE OF PROGRESS ALREADY MADE, THE FRG AUTHORITIES HAVE DRAWN UP A LIST

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OF POINTS WHICH COULD BE NEGOTIATED WITH THE GDR. THE LIST IS COMPOSED OF A NUMBER OF LONG-STANDING PROBLEMS AND CERTAIN OF THESE POINTS CONCERN BERLIN.

9. AS IN THE PAST, THE THREE POWERS WILL ENSURE THAT THEIR RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN BERLIN REMAIN UNAFFECTED. THE THREE POWERS AND THE FRG WILL CONTINUE TO REGARD THE STRICT OBSERVANCE AND FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE QA AS ESSENTIAL TO THE CONTINUATION OF DETENTE IN EUROPE. THEY WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE INCLUSION OF BERLIN, TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY THE QA, IN THE ACTIVITIES AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.

10. THE THREE POWERS AND THE FRG WOULD LIKE IN THIS CONNECTION TO SUBMIT TO THE COUNCIL A DOCUMENT WHICH DISCUSSES CERTAIN BERLIN QUESTIONS. THIS DOCUMENT HAS LIKEWISE BEEN SUBMITTED TO EACH OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE ALLIANCE. THE PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT IS NOT TO FAN CONTROVERSY WITH THE SOVIET
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UNION BUT TO EXPLAIN TO ALLIED COUNTRIES, IN A CONFIDENTIAL MANNER, THE POSITION OF THE THREE POWERS AND THE FRG ON ISSUES WHICH MOST FREQUENTLY ARISE IN CONNECTION WITH BERLIN. THE FOUR GOVERNMENTS WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS AGAIN TO THEIR ALLIES GRATITUDE FOR THE SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE THAT HAS BEEN RENDERED WITH RESPECT TO BERLIN.

END TEXT

5. ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVAL OF THE ABOVE TEXT AND AUTHORIZATION FOR USNATO TO COORDINATE WITH THE OTHER

THREE MISSIONS DELIVERY TO THE NAC.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Concepts: SOVEREIGNTY, POLICIES, BRIEFING MATERIALS, STATUS OF BERLIN, BERLIN QUADRIpartite MATTERS, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, MILITARY VEHICLES, BORDER CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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